## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 02507 030558Z

12

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 030416Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6430

SECRETSEOUL 2507

**NODIS** 

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, KS

SUBJECT: MYUNGDONG AFFAIR: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: STATE 077951

- 1. DURING APRIL 2 MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER PARK, I REVIEWED AGAIN OUR CONCERNS AND VIEWS REGARDING MYUNGDONG AFFAIR, ALONG LINES REF A. PARK WAS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR HAHM (REF A).
- 2. PARK LASHED BACK, ATTACKING PARTICULARLY CONGRESSMAN FRASER AND WASHINGTON POST'S FAILURE TO "UNDERSTAND" KOREAN SITUATION. HE SAID THEY EXPECTED FAR TOO MUCH AT THIS STAGE IN KOREAN DEVELOPMENT. I POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE ALSO OTHER CRITICS, SUCH AS SENATOR HUMPHREY, WHO WAS CONDUCTING COMMITTEE HEARINGS APRIL 8. PARK ACKNOWLEDGED THE VIEWS OF HUMPHREY AND OTHERS OF SIMILAR ILK WERE IMPORTANT TO KOREA AND WORTH LISTENING TO. WHILE HE MADE SPIRITED DEFENSE OF ROKG POSITION ON HANDLING MYUNGDONG AFFAIR IN NOW FAMILIAR TERMS, HE RCOGNIZED THAT HEAVY-HANDEDNESS, WHICH HE BLAMED ON "POLICE AUTHORITIES", RAISED DIFFICULTIES ABROAD. HE COMMENTED SOMEWHAT WISTFULLY REGARDING THE FINESSE IN TACTICS AGAINST OPPOSITION EMPLOYED BY LEE KWAN YEW, WHO HAD MUCH IMPRESSED HIM DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO SINGAPORE.

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3. PARK EXPECTS TO BE HIT ON MYUNGDONG AFFAIR DURING

HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO WASHINGTON AND CLEARLY DOES NOT RELISH THE PROSPECT. SNEIDER	
SECRET	
NNN	

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, ARRESTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS,

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 03 APR 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 **Decaption Note:** 

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: izenbei0 Disposition Cament: 25 MAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: **Disposition Remarks:** 

Document Number: 1976SEOUL02507 Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: P840090-1933 From: SEOUL

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197604100/aaaadiio.tel

Line Count: 64

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION NODS

Original Classification: SECRET Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a **Previous Classification: SECRET** Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS Reference: 76 STATE 77951 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: izenbei0 Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 28 MAY 2004 **Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÅY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE

Subject: MYUNGDONG AFFAIR: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SHUM, KS, US, (KIM TAE-CHUNG), (PAK TONG-CHIN)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006